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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Ryokichi Matsumoto et al

Serial No.

09/638,162

Filed

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August 14, 2000

For

POLARIZATION-MAINTAINING OPTICAL FIBER

AND POLARIZATION-MAINTAINING OPTICAL

FIBER COMPONENT

Art Unit

2874

Examiner

N/A

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February 6, 2003) CENTER 2800

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

The following Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office Action dated November 6, 2002 for the above-identified patent application. A (3) three month response period was set for February 6, 2003. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

In response to the Office Action of November 6, 2002, kindly amend the application as follows: